

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

These limitations were not found within the prior art

a foundation services tier (FST) providing modules with operating system functionalities including resource allocation and scheduling function, and modules with middleware functionalities including messaging and knowledge integration, wherein all tasks that are scheduled are initiated through the scheduler function, with each defined task comprising constraints, and if the constraints cannot be satisfied within a current context, the scheduler notifies a task initiator with a precise indication of the reasons, providing Quality of Service (QoS) guarantees, and wherein user's security authorizations are managed by a Globally-Controlled Locally Managed (GCLM) system in which users are grouped A into non-overlapping security domains, each managed by a security domain administrator (SDA), and users are assigned privileges defined by application designers at a lowest level of granularity;

a domain services tier (DST) comprising a workflow software (SW) engine having specific process states, and thus having state transitions, triggered by events, all defined by an XML-based configuration mechanism of the workflow software engine, and Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) for developing the healthcare business process applications, wherein each call to an API is routed to a Quality of Service (QoS) subsystem before being executed, and QoS standards are enforced in operation of the API and any healthcare business process application implemented through the API, and wherein the healthcare business process applications are developed for a specific healthcare enterprise, and after development are deployed to be executed at the specific enterprise by users who are associated with and granted privileges for that enterprise; and

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an application services tier (AST) comprising specific healthcare business process applications developed using the workflow software engine and APIs of the DST, the healthcare business process applications implemented using services of the workflow software engine and communicating with one another in the AST using a publish subscribe model provided by a subscription manager, in which messages are published by individual applications without being addressed to any specific destination, and applications subscribe according to interest without regard to any specific source, and wherein in the AST all entered data is routed through a health care standards subsystem before being accepted as clinical data, thus ensuring standards compliance.

Closest Prior Art:

Knowlton, U.S. Pre-Grant Publication 2003/ 0204415 teaches a system that compares the patient profile of the patient to an iterative patient database that includes a plurality of the patient profiles for a plurality of patients where each of the plurality of patients having at least one of the objective attribute and the subjective attribute that is similar to at least one of the objective attribute and the subjective attribute of the patient profile for the patient. However, Knowlton does not teach the limitations as shown above.

Seltzer, U.S. Pre-Grant Publication 2005/ 0004814 teaches a method and system for distributing medical safety information. However, Seltzer does not teach the limitations as shown above.

Bowman-Amuah, U.S. Patent 6, 742,015 teaches a system and method are provided for providing base service patterns for use in a component-based architecture. However, Bowman-Amuah does not teach the limitations as shown above.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NEAL R. SEREBOFF whose telephone number is (571)270-1373. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon thru Thur from 7:30am to 5pm, with 1st Fri off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Morgan can be reached on (571) 272-6773. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert Morgan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3626

/N. R. S./
Examiner, Art Unit 3626